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WALLINGFORD AND WANTAGE DISTRICTS
JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR
1958

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WALLINGFORD AND WANTAGE DISTRICTS
JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
1958 — 1959

WALLINGFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

MR. A. C. LESTER (*Vice-Chairman*), The Triangle, Wantage Road, Wallingford.
DR. O. C. WILKINSON, Bezants, Winterbrook, Wallingford.

WANTAGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

LT. COL. J. INNES, J.P., The Ham, Wantage.
MR. O. S. WALTER, Ickleton House, Wantage.

WALLINGFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MRS. E. A. BENNETT, 120 Kynaston Road, Didcot.
MRS. E. M. COLLIER, Collier's Cottage, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell.
MR. H. T. MERRITT (*Chairman*), 54 Foxhall Road, Didcot.

WANTAGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

DR. C. W. HART-JONES, Wheatsheaf House, East Ilsley.
MR. J. E. LELEAN, Potterspury, Bessel's Way, Blewbury.
MR. A. G. MULFORD, Brookside, Upton.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MR. J. L. SALE, C.I.E., Priors Hold, Wantage.
DR. A. G. WALTER, Littleholme, Thames Street, Wallingford.

CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

G. V. SPOONER, 60 Bath Street, Abingdon.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

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E. M. HAMILTON, M.B.E., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Secretary

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MISS G. REED (From 1st September, 1958)

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WANTAGE RURAL DISTRICT

Chief Public Health Inspector

E. H. ROSSER, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

D. D. BUTTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Till September 1958)
D. J. CAMP, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (From September, 1958)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
WALLINGFORD.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE WALLINGFORD AND WANTAGE DISTRICTS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I take pleasure in presenting my fifth Annual Report on the state of the public health in the Wallingford and Wantage Combined Districts during 1958.

During the year the area was visited by Dr. A. Janner, Medical Officer of Health of Innsbruck and the Austrian Tyrol. The purpose of his visit was to study the public health services in a rural part of England. The main points arising from our discussions were :—

1. All food handlers in Austria must undergo a compulsory medical examination. Surprise was expressed at our laxity in this matter.
2. Our methods of milk production both of Tuberculin tested and pasteurised milk are efficient and far in advance of Austria.
3. We are far more efficient in our methods of sewage disposal compared with Austria, where crude sewage is discharged into rivers. (On raising my eyebrows at this, Dr. Janner emphasised they were fast flowing rivers !)

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The home population of the Combined Districts as estimated by the Registrar General at mid-year 1958 was 43,260. This population is contained in an area of 99,528 acres, giving a density of ·43 persons per acre. There has been an increase in population of 840, and of this Wallingford Borough has contributed almost half.

District	Area in acres	Estimated Mid-Year Population 1957	1958	Difference	Density per acre
Wallingford Borough	760	3,810	4,210	+400	5.54
Wantage Urban	2,797	5,660	5,680	+ 20	2.03
Wallingford Rural	21,790	17,130	17,370	+240	.80
Wantage Rural	74,181	15,820	16,000	+180	.21
Total	99,528	42,420	43,260	+840	.43

BIRTHS

Live Births

The corrected birth rate remains higher than that for England and Wales in all districts except Wantage Urban.

District	No. of live births 1958			Birth rate per 1,000 population	Corrected Birth rate per 1,000 population
	Male	Female	Total		
Wallingford Borough	37	43	80	19.0	17.9
Wantage Urban	49	42	91	16.0	14.7
Wallingford Rural	154	170	324	18.6	19.7
Wantage Rural	161	152	313	19.6	19.2
Combined Districts	401	407	808	18.7	
England and Wales					16.4

Still Births

There were fewer stillbirths in 1958 and the rate of 17.0 was considerably below that of 21.6 for England and Wales.

District	No. of stillbirths		Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still)	
	1957	1958	1957	1958
Wallingford Borough	2	1		
Wantage Urban	5	3		
Wallingford Rural	6	6		
Wantage Rural	5	4		
Combined Districts	18	14	21.0	17.0
England and Wales			22.5	21.6

Illegitimate Births

5.1% of all births were illegitimate.

District	Number of illegitimate births per annum				
	1938	1945	1952	1957	1958
Wallingford Borough	3	5	5	3	3
Wantage Urban	3	17	5	9	4
Wallingford Rural	11	26	21	13	17
Wantage Rural	7	30	15	19	18
Total	24	78	46	44	42

DEATHS

There were fewer deaths in 1958 and the crude rate of 11 for the combined districts is the lowest since 1952. The corrected rates for all four constituent authorities are well below the rate for England and Wales and in the case of Wallingford Borough exceptionally so.

District	No. of Deaths 1958			Crude death rate per 1,000 population		Corrected death rate per 1,000 population	
	M	F	Total	1957	1958	1957	1958
Wallingford Borough	31	36	67	36.5	15.9	8.4	4.4
Wantage Urban	22	30	52	9.7	9.1	7.5	8.0
Wallingford Rural	104	126	230	10.9	13.2	7.4	10.0
Wantage Rural	69	59	128	8.4	8.0	9.0	8.7
Combined Districts	226	251	477	13.6	11.0		
England and Wales						11.5	11.7

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 14 deaths of infants under one year, of which 10 occurred during the neonatal period, i.e. the first four weeks of life. This gives an infant mortality rate of 17.3 and a neonatal mortality rate of 12.4, the respective figures for England and Wales being 22.6 and 16.2.

District	No. of infant deaths under 12 months		Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	
	1957	1958	1957	1958
Wallingford Borough	3	1		
Wantage Urban	—	2		
Wallingford Rural	5	8		
Wantage Rural	7	3		
Combined Districts	15	14	17.9	17.3
England and Wales			23.1	22.6

CAUSES OF DEATH 1958

Causes	Wallingford Borough M.	F.	Total	Wantage U.D. M.	F.	Total	Wallingford R.D. M.	F.	Total	Wantage R.D. M.	F.	Total	C'bined Districts Total
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	2
Tuberculosis, Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	3	—	3	6
Malignant neoplasm lung bronchus	1	—	1	2	—	2	3	1	4	5	—	5	12
Malignant neoplasm breast	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	2	2	—	2	2	7
Malignant neoplasm uterus	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	1	4	2	2	4	7	6	13	4	6	10	31
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Diabetes	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	2	3	5
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	6	14	20	—	3	3	14	16	30	7	13	20	73
Coronary disease angina	11	2	13	2	3	5	14	12	26	17	10	27	71

Hypertension with heart disease	—	1	1	1	1	2	4	2	6	—	1	1	10
Other heart diseases	5	6	11	2	3	5	18	42	60	7	3	10	86
Other circulatory diseases	—	—	—	—	3	3	2	4	6	4	1	5	14
Influenza	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia	1	3	4	3	2	5	7	11	18	7	3	10	37
Bronchitis	—	—	—	3	1	4	7	1	8	8	1	9	21
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	2	—	—	—	4
Ulcers of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2	—	—	—	4	1	5	—	1	1	8
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	1	2	5
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	1	3
Pregnancy child-birth abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Congenital malformations	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	3	—	—	—	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	4	6	4	6	10	6	14	20	2	6	8	44
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
All other accidents	—	1	1	—	—	—	5	6	11	1	1	2	14
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	1	1	4
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	31	36	67	22	30	52	104	126	230	69	59	128	477

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Disease	Wal'f'd Borough	Wantage U.D.	Wal'f'd R.D.	Wantage R.D.	Total 1957	1958
Measles	6	1	21	90	871	118
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	2	26	2
Puerpural Pyrexia	—	1	—	—	2	1
Paralytic Polio	—	—	1	1	3	2
Non-Paralytic Polio	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia	—	2	—	—	2	2
Encephalitis	—	—	—	1	—	1
Dysentery	1	—	1	—	8	2
Scarlet Fever	—	5	—	8	12	13
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—	1	—	1	1
Pneumococcal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	3	1	1	4
Malaria, B.T.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	1	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary T.B.	1	4	13	2	28	20
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	—	1	—	—	3	1
Total	8	14	40	106	959	168

The decline in Whooping Cough since 1955 has been quite marked. In 1955 there were 99 notifications, 82 in 1956, 26 in 1957 and now 2 in 1958. From this it would appear that immunisation against Whooping Cough is playing a considerable part in reducing this disease, which can lead to chest complications later in life.

Both cases of poliomyelitis were of the paralytic variety, one being a child of one year and the other an adult. Neither had been vaccinated against the disease. Vaccinations on a greater scale have continued during 1959.

1958 was unusual in that one case of Typhoid Fever was notified, the last incident of this disease occurring in 1953. Despite numerous investigations at Poole, Warrington and locally the source could not be determined. Known carriers of the particular type of organism were checked but there was no history of any contact with the case. Here I would gratefully acknowledge the help accorded me by Drs. Katherine Williams and Douglas of the Medical Division, Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, in connection with this case.

There were fewer notifications of tuberculosis in 1958 compared to 1957, but it must be remembered the Mobile Mass Radiography Unit visited the area during the latter year.

Vaccination against Smallpox 1958

	Under 1 year	1-4 Years	5-14 Years	15 years and over	Total
Wallingford Borough					
Primary	71	1	—	—	72
Re-vaccination	—	—	3	2	5
Wallingford R.D.					
Primary	158	7	3	—	168
Re-vaccination	—	8	6	10	24
Wantage U.D.					
Primary	69	3	4	3	79
Re-vaccination	—	3	—	1	4
Wantage R.D.					
Primary	131	5	1	—	137
Re-vaccination	—	3	10	17	30
Combined Districts	429	30	27	33	519

The number of infants under 1 year vaccinated against Smallpox in the combined districts represents 53.1% of the births. Similarly by applying the under 1 year figures to each district the proportion of newborn infants vaccinated were Wallingford Borough 88.7%, Wallingford R.D. 48.8%, Wantage U.D. 75.8% and Wantage R.D. 41.9%

Whooping Cough Immunisation 1958

	Under 1 Yr.	1-4 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	Total
Wallingford Borough				
Primary	87	5	—	92
Booster	—	—	8	8
Wallingford R.D.				
Primary	225	10	—	235
Booster	—	4	—	4
Wantage U.D.				
Primary	103	7	—	110
Booster	—	9	—	9
Wantage R.D.				
Primary	192	19	—	211
Booster	—	2	—	2
Combined Districts	607	56	8	671

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis 1958

District	Number of first, second or third vaccinations
Wallingford Borough	986
Wallingford R.D.	3,316
Wantage U.D.	1,382
Wantage R.D.	2,737
Combined Districts	8,421

Diphtheria Immunisation 1958

	Under 1 Year	1-4 Yrs.	5-15 yrs.	Total
Wallingford Borough				
Primary	67	7	—	74
Booster	—	3	26	29
Wallingford R.D.				
Primary	193	14	1	208
Booster	—	4	16	20
Wantage U.D.				
Primary	78	12	1	91
Booster	—	3	16	19
Wantage R.D.				
Primary	195	22	5	222
Booster	—	2	17	19
Combined Districts	533	67	82	682

The number of children under 1 year immunised against Diphtheria in the Combined Districts represents 66% of the live births ; the proportions for each district approximately being Wallingford Borough 84%, Wallingford R.D. 60%, Wantage U.D. 86%, and Wantage R.D. 62%.

Compared to 1957 there has been an over all increase of 4.3% in the total number of Diphtheria immunisations.

Smoking and Lung Cancer

We have recently been informed that the number of cigarettes smoked in the past year has risen. Speaking for myself I have not noticed any reduction in the number of teenagers to be seen smoking in public, and quite frankly cannot foresee any change in the future unless we organise a nation-wide campaign against smoking.

It is pretty obvious our most effective advertising weapon is through the medium of television. All the lectures and talks to school children plus poster and leaflets, etc., cannot combat the amount of advertising of the various brands of cigarettes and tobacco they see on television. I refer to such piffle as " deeply satisfying " etc. I am firmly convinced that a short T.V. film pointing out the dangers of smoking and featuring some of the idols of the stage, screen or sport would do infinitely more good than all the health education talks to schools on the subject, if such are taking place. It might cost more, but if spread over all the health authorities of the country should not prove expensive.

Our main objective must be to prevent the younger generations from contracting this habit, which can only be described as *time consuming, money wasting and health destroying.*

Fluoridation of Water Supplies

Much interest has been focussed on this subject since my last report. In fact I have been agreeably surprised at the measure of support from the public in favour of the fluoridation of public water supplies. However, the Ministry of Health, although accepting fluoridation in principle, are not encouraging the initiation of new schemes until the results of the demonstrations now going on in several areas become known. As these demonstrations have only been running a comparatively short period it would appear we will have to wait a considerable time for something which will reduce dental decay in children and which has already proved itself in America.

All this is in keeping with our habit of " dipsi doodling ". We would not at first have the American vaccine against poliomyelitis ; then we decided to have it providing it was tested before release ; then because of the three month hold up for tests these were abandoned.

Now we have the case for fluoridation " and so it goes ".

Contamination of Water Cress Beds

During the year the water cress beds at Blewbury were found to be highly contaminated. This followed flooding from an adjacent pig farm. The contamination persisted though to a less degree, and it was considered advisable to prevent the consumption by the public of this water cress.

It is a well known fact that the majority of water cress beds are contaminated to varying degrees, but what amount of contamination is permissible ? Doubtless the washing of water cress in solutions of hyperchlorite renders it fairly innocuous, but even after the treatment in a highly contaminated bed there remains an element of risk which in my opinion should not be taken.

Caravans

The infiltration of caravans into the area still presents a problem which is increasing. I am still firmly convinced that the answer is the provision and control by district councils of developed sites. Considerable work in this direction has been done by Wallingford R.D., who are going to provide and develop two sites at Cholsey and Didcot. Once these are ready applicants for licences to station moveable dwellings in various parts of the district will be directed to them. This should lead to clean, tidy sites free from nuisances.

Some private caravan sites in the area are reasonably well conducted, but on the whole it is expensive accommodation for the occupants by the time they have paid their rent or instalment for the van, the site rent, calor gas charges, etc. In some instances they are even forced to buy their food and groceries at the site owner's shop.

Progress

The objective of all villages is to have main drainage. On their part Rural District Councils endeavour to provide such amenities but are controlled by the Ministry in regard to the necessity for these works and the expenditure involved.

In a village which has main drainage it is only right the school should be connected, particularly one with primitive and deplorable sanitation as in the case of West Hanney. A main sewer has been available outside the front gate of this school some considerable time. Over a year ago I was informed no money had been earmarked for school sanitation, perhaps some may soon be forthcoming. Modern education in such substandard conditions is ludicrous.

Acknowledgments

First of all I wish to record my thanks to the Joint Health Committee, who at all times have been most considerate and helpful ; to my colleagues in the County of Berkshire ; to the staff of the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford ; to the Public Health Inspectors of the constituent authorities whose contributions to this report bear testimony to the amount of work they get through during the year, and finally to the general practitioners for their valued help and co-operation.

I remain,

Your obedient Medical Officer of Health,

Edmund M. Hamilton.

WALLINGFORD BOROUGH

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the dwelling houses in the Borough are supplied with water from main piped supplies. The supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.

Fifty-five samples of chlorinated water in distribution were taken for bacteriological examination during the year. Forty-nine samples were satisfactory, but six samples showed slight contamination with coliform organisms.

A new 3". water main has been laid to serve the new development on Chalmore allotments.

SEWERAGE ANE SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Sewage from the whole of the Borough is pumped to the Wallingford R.D.C's disposal works at Cholsey for treatment, and this arrangement has continued to work satisfactorily.

Work commenced in March on the erection of a new pumping station, gravitating sewer and rising main. When completed, this station will eliminate one ejector station which is at present grossly overloaded.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Weekly refuse collection has continued satisfactorily during the year, use being made of the Rural District Council's tip for disposal.

RODENT CONTROL

A new rodent operative was appointed jointly by the Borough Council and the Rural District Council at the commencement of the year.

	Visits	*Re-visits*
Dwelling houses	42	186
Local authority premises	20	179
Business premises	3 Inspections	
Agricultural premises	3 Inspections	

A 10% test of the sewers was made, and in view of the long infestation-free history, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food suggest the next test should take place in the Spring of 1962.

MILK SUPPLIES

Two dairies in the Borough are registered for retail sales of milk.

Designated licences in force are as follows :

2 Tuberculin Tested
1 Pasteurised
1 Sterilised
4 Supplementary licences

MILK SAMPLING

Four milk samples were taken for bacteriological examination. All passed the test for pasteurisation and sterilisation, but as the atmospheric shade temperature exceeded 65° F. at the Public Health Laboratory the tests for keeping quality were void.

ICE CREAM

Fifteen premises are registered for the sale of ice cream, and one for manufacture.

Three ice cream samples were taken during the period ; two were placed in Grade One, and the third (wrapped, block) in Grade Two.

FOOD PREMISES

Types of Business

(a)	Butchers	8
(b)	Grocers	10
(c)	Fried Fish Shops	2
(d)	Fishmongers	2 (including one under (c))
(e)	Greengrocers	6
(f)	Cafes	8 (including one under (c))
(g)	Hotels catering for non-residents	4
(h)	Bakers	4

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

(a)	Sale of Ice Cream	15
(b)	Manufacture of Ice Cream	1
(c)	Manufacture of Sausages	8

Inspection of Registered Food Premises

Twenty inspections have been carried out.
Informal action was taken in respect of one cafe.

Food Sampling

Five samples of apples were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis in January, as a result of a notification to the Medical Officer of Health that apples sprayed with an excess of an injurious chemical were being sold in the county. One sample showed 1 p.p.m. of lead, but no arsenic. Another sample showed 3 p.p.m. of lead, but although this is in excess of the limit of 2 p.p.m. the analyst suggested that as most of the contaminant is on the surface some relaxation of the standard is permissible.

A complaint was investigated regarding discomfort after eating a meal containing fish paste and tomatoes. Samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and the Public Analysts respectively, but in both cases the analysts reported these particular items would not seem to have been responsible.

Educational Activity

No educational activity in relation to clean food has taken place during the year.

Method of Disposal of Condemned Food

Liquid acid green is sprayed on all fresh meat condemned and the meat destroyed.

All condemned tinned food is disposed of with the Local Authority refuse.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1946-52

All premises selling and manufacturing ice cream comply with the Regulations.

Bakehouses

There are four bakehouses in the Borough. All were inspected and their condition was satisfactory.

Housing and Moveable Dwellings

Twenty-four houses were erected by the Borough Council during the year. Three houses were erected by private enterprise.

Plans were approved in June for the construction of an Old People's Home within the Borough, for the Berkshire County Council, and work has commenced on the erection.

Permission for the siting of a caravan at the rear of factory premises for use by the caretaker was given until the end of the year.

Meat and Food Inspection

Slaughtering is carried on at two slaughterhouses in the Borough.

The following tables give details of carcases and offal inspected :

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	342	15	48	488	499
Number inspected	342	15	48	488	499
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	42	4	—	30	58
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	12.3	26.6	—	6	11.6
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	1	—	—	7
Percentage of which some part or organ was condemned	.9	6.6	—	—	1.4
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

The following amounts of unsound food were also inspected and voluntarily surrendered :

Tinned foods : Meat	251 lbs.	12 oz.
Fruit and Vegetables	27 lbs.	3 oz.
Undrawn chickens	37 lbs.	8 oz.
Piglet carcase and all offals.		

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Factories Acts, 1937 & 1948

Part 1 of the Act

1 — Inspections

	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	25	12	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	14	9	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	39	21	—	—

Cases in which Defects were found — 2

BATHING PLACE

The Borough Council own and maintain an open-air swimming pool and paddling pool at the riverside park, near Wallingford Bridge. In addition they provide facilities for river bathing on the same site. The swimming and paddling pools are supplied with pure water from a borehole, and sterilisation is carried out by sodium hypochlorite solution.

WANTAGE URBAN DISTRICT

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

WATER SUPPLIES

288 lineal yards of 6″ diameter and 180 lineal yards of 4″ diameter Spun Iron mains have been laid at the Stockham Housing Estate to afford a supply of water to all remaining houses to be built on this estate.

It is proposed to construct a new 6″ diameter Spun Iron Water main from the service reservoir at Chain hill to Springfield Road and Larkhill to serve a housing estate now being developed in this area.

The new control house at the Manor Road Pumping Station has been completed and is functioning satisfactorily.

The supply of water from the boreholes at the Manor Road Pumping Station was found to be adequate to meet all normal demands.

19 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination of these 15 were satisfactory, 3 were Class II and 1 was Class IV.

SEWERAGE

Except for minor extensions to sewers to meet housing demands, no sewerage schemes have been put in hand.

Sludge drying is still proving difficult at the Bradfield Farm Sewage Disposal Works, due to lack of sufficient drying beds.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The weekly collection of all Domestic and Trade Refuse from all properties in the area has been maintained throughout the year.

The tip at " S " Hill is being worked satisfactorily and should provide tipping space for some years.

RODENT CONTROL

Rodent treatment has been undertaken as follows :—

(1)	Council owned houses	Nil
(2)	Private houses	20
(3)	Business premises	2
(4)	Sewer Manholes	72
(5)	Refuse Tip	6

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The site at the rear of Grove Street, licensed for 27 moveable dwellings has been regularly inspected. The sanitary and ablution arrangements are satisfactory and well maintained.

5 moveable dwellings are situated in other parts of the area for which licences have been obtained.

PRIVATE NURSING HOMES

There are no private nursing homes in the area.

HOUSING	1957	1958
Number of permanent houses erected	41	32
Number of permanent houses erected by the Local Authority	32	21
Number of permanent houses erected by Private enterprise	9	11
Number of temporary houses erected	—	—
Number of families on housing list	183	119

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

Number of persons dealt with under Section 47	Nil
Number of persons dealt with under Section 50	Nil

PUBLIC BATHS

There is one open air swimming pool owned and operated by the Urban District Council. The pool is emptied, cleansed and refilled weekly with water from the public mains. No filtration or purification plant is installed, the water in the pool being occasionally hand dosed with a chlorine solution.

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES

Number of premises disinfected during year—3
Reason—Owners request.

LICENSED PREMISES

There are 17 licensed premises in the area each of which have been inspected involving 25 visits. Improvements have been carried out to the sanitary accommodation and to the drainage of one of these premises.

SHOPS ACT

Number of shops in the district	95
Number of shops inspected	84
Number of inspections	105

FOOD AND CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are 55 food premises in the area as follows :—

Butchers	7
Wet fish shops	3
Fried Fish shops	2
Grocers and General Stores	18
Greengrocers	4
Bakers and Confectioners	3
Bakehouses	3
Sweet shops	5
Hotels	6
Restaurants	4

All premises have been visited with a total of 67 visits. With a few exceptions in respect of which informal action is now being taken, the standard of cleanliness in food premises is generally satisfactory.

During the year 4 premises have been brought up to the standard of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS

There is one licensed Slaughterhouse in the area and licences to slaughter animals have been granted to four persons.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	156	29	226	172	—
Number inspected	156	29	226	172	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	7	—	—	4	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	4.5%	—	—	2.25%	—
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	5	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	2.9%	—
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

The following items were found, on inspection at premises other than slaughterhouses, to be unfit for human consumption, and were voluntarily surrendered :—

6 tins soup, 1 tin peas, 1 tin Baked Beans, 5 tins Italian tomatoes, 4 tins corned beef, 1 tin of Steak, 1 tin Luncheon Meat, 3 tins peaches. Also 7 lbs. Canterbury Lamb, 105 lbs. Potatoes, 21½ lbs. Pig Liver.

Unsound meat is sterilized and used for animal food. Other unsound foods are buried under Council supervision.

ICE CREAM

20 premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. All licensed premises have been inspected during the year, the total number of visits being 31. The premises were found to be satisfactory in respect of the storage and sale of ice cream. 12 samples of ice cream were taken, 11 of which were placed in provisional Grade I and 1 in Provisional Grade II.

MILK SUPPLIES

There are two retailers of milk in the district. One holds supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested Milk, and the other holds licences to sell Pasteurised, Tuberculin Tested and Sterilised Milk.

There is one retail dairy in the district which is frequently inspected.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR DURING 1958.

	No. of different properties or sites	Total No. of visits made
Water sampling	15	19
Sewage Disposal	1	12
Refuse Tip	2	18
Moveable dwellings	6	17
Public Baths	1	12
Disinfections	3	5
Licensed Premises	17	25
Shops	84	105
Food Shops	56	68
Ice Cream Shops	20	36
Slaughterhouses	1	60
Unfit Food	7	14
Retail Dairies	1	3
General House Inspections	75	104
Drainage Inspections	12	25
Rodent Control	23	69
Miscellaneous Visits	5	21

Number of different premises inspected	329
Number of visits made	613
Number of complaints received	63
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	22
Number of nuisances abated	22
Number of notices : Formal	Nil
Informal	22

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 & 1948

PART I OF THE ACT
INSPECTIONS

	Number on Register	Number of — Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	16	11	3	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	20	15	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	8	8	—	—
Total	44	34	3	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	2	2			
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—				
(c) Not separate for sexes	—				
Total	3	3	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT
Outwork—Nil.

WALLINGFORD RURAL DISTRICT

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WATER SUPPLY

The major capital works carried out during the year included the completion of the 9″ trunk main from Sire Hill (Long Wittenham) to Didcot, with a branch main to Pearith Farm, and a new water main to serve the Caps Lane area of Cholsey.

A short length of main was laid to serve the new development off Wantage Road, Didcot.

An interconnecting main was laid between the Council's and Wallingford Borough mains at Brightwell-cum-Sotwell to enable a supplementary supply of water to be given to the Borough.

During the year it was possible to meet the whole demand for water from the Council's own service.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

A major improvement undertaken during the year was the Brightwell-cum-Sotwell Sewerage Scheme. Despite bad weather and bad working conditions it is anticipated that this scheme will be completed by March, 1959.

The flooding of sewers in the Station Road/Lydalls Road area of Didcot, during times of heavy rain, is causing the Council some anxiety. This problem is at present being investigated.

REFUSE COLLECTION

STAFF 1 Foreman and 9 men.

One man is employed full-time on supervision and control of the tip surface. The remaining eight men form two crews of four, with the foreman mobile to help out where required.

EQUIPMENT One 15 cubic yard Karrier moving floor type vehicle.
One 25 cubic yard Karrier fore and aft tipper.
One Fordson Half-track tractor, equipped with dozing blade.

DISPOSAL Controlled tipping at disused gravel pits, Pearith, Long Wittenham.

COLLECTION Kerbside collection once weekly. A fee of £1 per annum is charged where a collection from the back-door is made in cases of illness, infirmity, etc.

TRADE REFUSE No charge is made for the collection of trade refuse, but a charge of 5/- per load has recently been introduced for the disposal of trade refuse on the tip. This should help to cover the labour charges involved in handling the material.

GENERAL

It is estimated that the quantity of domestic refuse collected now amounts to approximately 7,230 tons per annum. The bull-dozer at present in use is in a very poor condition, and provision has been made to replace it, in the annual estimates for 1959/60. It is interesting to note that arrangements have been made with A.E.R.E. Harwell for the hire of a refuse vehicle, at very reasonable rates, on occasions when the Council's vehicles are out of commission.

RODENT CONTROL

Mr. T. E. Thomas was appointed as the Council's Rodent Officer with effect from 1st February, 1958.

During the year the Council's sewers were test-baited and found to be free from infestation. A survey has also been carried out of all the agricultural properties in the district. Contracts have been agreed with a number of farmers for rodent control, and this work together with repayment work on business premises, has resulted in an income of approximately £200 per annum.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT IN 1958

	Visits	*Treatments*
Dwelling Houses	308	262
Business Premises	31	20
Local Authority	447	126
Agricultural Properties	299	109

Sewers—No. of Manholes baited—41
No. of takes—NIL.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are three private slaughterhouses in the district. One of these is substandard and was not in use in 1958. Meat inspection has been carried out regularly at the other two slaughterhouses, throughout the year, and details of the work done are shown in Appendix 1. Inspection standard of 100% was achieved during the year.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOODS

Condemned foods, other than meat, are disposed of on the Council's refuse tip at Long Wittenham. Condemned meat is collected from the slaughterhouses by approved contractors. All meat unfit for human consumption is stained with acid green before it leaves the slaughterhouses.

FOOD ADMINISTRATION

MILK All milk retailed in this area is designated. Routine samples in delivery have been taken throughout the year. All the samples were submitted to the statutory tests for keeping quality and pasteurisation, and were reported upon as satisfactory.

In October the local milk bottling plant inaugurated two interesting processes. One is a piece of apparatus which will take automatic samples from the milk received, so that the butter fat and non-fatty solids may be ascertained. The other is a cleansing system for the processing plant which is completely automatic.

ICE CREAM. There is one firm in the district manufacturing ice cream. Regular monthly samples were taken from this source, and submitted for laboratory examination. All the samples conformed with the test for keeping quality, and were classified as Provisional Grade 1.

FOOD SHOPS. The Food Hygiene Regulations have now been in force for 4 years, and they have made a considerable contribution to the improvement of food hygiene standards. All the food shops in the district have received regular visits, and the general standard was found to be high. Food traders are developing the habit of approaching my department for expert advice when they envisage alterations to their premises. There were no prosecutions under the Food Hygiene Regulations during the year.

STATISTICS

FOOD PREMISES IN THE DISTRICT

Food Factories	4
General Grocery	42
Butchers	10
Chemists	4
Cafes'	5
Public Houses	32
Travelling Food Vehicles	11
Greengrocers	8
Confectioners	6
Fish Shops	4
Hotels with Catering Licences	7
	133

NUMBER OF PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Manufacture of Ice Cream	1
Sale & Storage of Ice Cream	43
Fish Frying	4
Sausage Making	7
Bakehouses	5
Dairies (Milk & Dairies Regs.)	4
Total number of inspections (all food premises)	167

PUBLIC BATHS

There are two small swimming baths in the district. One at the Shillingford Bridge Hotel, the other at the premises of the Wallingford Caravan Co. at Shillingford Hill.

The water supply for each of these baths is taken from the Thames, filtered and chlorinated. No samples of swimming bath water were taken during the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

A summary of the work carried out has been outlined in Appendix II.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

During the year no persons were buried by the Local Authority under the provisions of Section 50 of the above Act.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

No complaints relating to atmospheric pollution were received during the year. In May 1958, the Council resolved to amend its building byelaws to require all new buildings to be provided with appliances designed to burn smokeless fuel. The byelaw was confirmed by the Minister and came into effect on 1st September, 1958.

DISINFESTATION

Two treatments only for infestation by fleas were necessary during the year. It is noticeable that requests for this service have tailed off in recent years. No doubt the reduction of the number of substandard houses has contributed to this fact.

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED BY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT DURING 1958

	Informal	Statutory	Remedied in Default
General Housing Defects	14	4	—
Drainage Defects	7	1	1
Defective Dustbins	18	1	—
Food Hygiene Regulations	2	—	—
Shops Act	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	1	—
Factories Act	1	—	—
	43	7	1

CARAVANS

On the 31st December, 1958, there were approximately 173 occupied caravans in the area. These caravans are scattered throughout the district, and the majority are on sites which provide a minimum of amenities. The Council has expressed some concern over the problem, and has set up a small Committee to investigate the possibility of one or more Council sites being provided, which would be equipped with main drainage, adequate water supply, W.C's. etc.

HOUSING

In 1958 the Council completed 6 new houses in West Hagbourne, the majority of which were used for housing persons from unfit properties.

During the year 34 dwellings in the district were represented as unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.

Official action on a small slum clearance area of 7 houses in Didcot was deferred pending the erection of alternative accommodation for the occupants.

Of the 82 properties scheduled in the Council's first five years slum clearance programme, only 5 properties still require attention.

APPENDIX I

	Cows	Steers	Heifers	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Lambs	Goats
January	7	30	58	23	236	233	332	—
February	5	29	36	39	230	495	—	—
March	5	38	49	56	260	179	239	1
April	4	24	57	40	223	13	377	—
May	4	35	47	13	156	60	233	—
June	12	23	62	17	177	209	197	—
July	1	13	44	6	122	—	427	—
August	8	25	88	15	132	3	754	1
September	9	16	72	13	242	3	382	—
October	17	28	37	34	239	3	502	—
November	34	25	50	23	186	17	488	—
December	25	28	52	18	245	3	529	—
Totals	131	314	652	297	2448	1208	4460	2
T.B.								
Whole Carcase	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pt. Carcase	5	41		—	41	—	—	—
%	3.81	4.24		—	1.67	—	—	—
C. BOVIS								
Whole Carcase	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Pt. Carcase or Organs	—	11		—	—	—	—	—
%	—	1.14		—	—	—	—	—

	Cows	All ex. Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Diseases other than T.B. & C. Bovis					
Whole Carcase	1	1	—	13	1
pt. Carcase or organ	54	313	4	214	354
%	42	32.5	1.34	4	14.5

WEIGHTS CONDEMNED	*lbs.*
Whole Carcases	1553
Part Carcases	362
Heads & Meat	1600
Offal	5337
	8852

Voluntary Surrender of Foods Unfit for Human Consumption

Fresh Foods	*lbs.*
Dried Fruit	11,040
Meat	93
	11,133

Canned Foods	*No. of Cans*	*lbs.*
Meat	104	140
Fish	26	31
Fruit & Vegetables	823	9,732
	953	21,036

Appendix II.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Part I of the Act

1.—Inspections

	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	34	47	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	36	52	1	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found—One

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork—4 (Making of wearing apparel)

WANTAGE RURAL DISTRICT

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

MILK

There are 12 distributors of milk, with 7 dairies, registered in the district. Inspections of these dairies have been carried out regularly throughout the year.

All milk sold in the District is subject to the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations. Licences permitting the sale of milk under Special Designations were in force during the year as follows :

Tuberculin Tested	12
Pasteurised	12
Sterilised	1

19 samples were taken of designated milks. All were satisfactory.

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are 76 catering establishments in the district. This number includes licensed premises. There is, in addition one mobile snack bar regularly in use in the area.

63 visits have been made to these premises. Conditions have been found to be mainly satisfactory.

In the few cases where contravention of the Food Hygiene Regulations was found, proprietors of the premises concerned willingly co-operated with the Officers of the Council.

SHOPS

There are 57 shops in the district. Of these all but 2 are food shops. 88 visits were made to these premises during the year and in the majority of instances conditions were satisfactory. No statutory action was taken against any occupier.

BAKEHOUSES

No. in District	6
(4 Closed during year)	
No. of Inspections	9
No. of Notices	Nil

ICE CREAM PREMISES

No. of dealers on register	56

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND BUTCHER'S SHOPS

4 Slaughterhouses and 1 knacker's yard are licensed and used in the District although the latter is used only very rarely. Conditions in each case are satisfactory.

6 Butcher's shops and 3 mobile meat shops are open in the district and each is inspected regularly.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number killed (if known)	130	225	162	834	1095	29
Number inspected	130	225	160	814	1095	29
All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	—	4	3	4	3	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	12	1	2	10	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	4.6	7.1	2.5	.75	1.2	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	7	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	.6	—

Cysticercosis

There were no cases of Cysticercosis.

The total weight of meat and offal condemned was 3,275 lbs.

FOOD INSPECTION

The following food has been condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

112½ lbs. Canned Corned Beef
5¼ lbs. Canned Corned Mutton
8 lbs. Chilled Imported Sheeps' Hearts

WATER SUPPLY

A piped supply of water is available in all parishes. In each case a borehole is the source of supply. There are 4 separate schemes, but these have been linked so that a deficiency at one bore may be augmented from another.

20 samples of water were taken from the various sources and were found to be of high bacteriological standard.

Reports on the chemical composition of the water from all the sources state that the water " is quite satisfactory for a public supply".

Parish	Acres	Pop.	No. of Houses Council	No. of Houses Private	No. of Houses Connected to water mains Council	No. of Houses Connected to water mains Private	Sewerage
Ardington	2693	420	—	129	—	120	Yes
E. Challow	1657	665	85	120	85	116	Yes
W. Challow	1070	185	15	40	15	38	Yes
Childrey	2929	450	39	111	39	110	Yes
Denchworth	1041	170	12	41	12	39	
Goosey	946	125	6	32	6	24	
Grove	2513	1505	108	332	108	326	Yes
E. Hanney	2200	580	44	124	44	122	Yes
W. Hanney	1333	355	28	84	28	82	Yes
E. Hendred	3198	1260	81	323	81	321	Yes
W. Hendred	2002	335	29	71	29	67	
L. Regis	2155	430	41	101	41	98	Yes
L. Bassett	1631	175	11	42	11	42	†
Lockinge	3763	250	—	83	—	75	Yes
Sparsholt	3329	265	22	73	22	68	†
Aldworth	1886	205	12	58	12	48	†
Beedon	2096	335	8	101	8	97	†
Blewbury	4246	1000	54	247	54	238	†
Brightwalton	2054	295	15	85	15	79	†
Catmore	710	50	—	17	—	8	
Chaddleworth	3400	475	39	97	39	94	†
Chilton	1448	745	20	176	20	167	Yes
Compton	3803	1000	70	296	70	273	Yes
Farnborough	1886	105	4	34	4	28	
Fawley	2190	160	5	45	5	41	†
H. Norris	4479	720	58	204	58	163	†
Hermitage	1482	490	8	177	8	156	†
Harwell	2503	1970	62	424	62	422	Yes
E. Ilsley	3017	420	32	88	32	65	
W. Ilsley	3037	230	8	83	8	77	
Peasemore	2049	185	12	56	12	38	
Upton	1413	265	21	68	21	61	
	74181	15820	949	3962	949	3698	

† Small disposal works in existence for Council Houses only

No. of dwelling houses connected to the mains	4647
Population connected to water mains (approx.)	14910
No. of dwelling houses supplied by S/pipes. (approx.)	38
Population supplied by S/pipes (Est.)	175

The Water Supply Scheme to the Parish of Aldworth is under construction and is expected to be completed by September 1959.

A scheme for laying a larger water main (4″) to the parish of West Ilsley has been approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and will shortly be commenced.

SEWERAGE

Improvements to the Harwell Sewage System and the Letcombe Regis Sewage Disposal Works have been completed.

A new sewerage system and sewage disposal works for the parish of Blewbury is under construction.

Approval for sewerage schemes for the parishes of East Ilsley and Hampstead Norris have been received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Sewerage schemes are in the course of preparation for the parishes of Upton, West Ilsley, Chaddleworth and West Hendred.

Further improvements to the sewers in Harwell and East Hendred are being prepared.

REFUSE COLLECTION

2,510 tons of refuse were collected and disposed of at the refuse tips at Farnborough, Hermitage, Stanford and Upton.

Upton refuse tip was closed during the year and tipping commenced at Stanford-in-the-Vale jointly with Faringdon R.D.C. The Lease of Hermitage tip was extended until March 1960 to enable the Council to negotiate for an alternative site for the Southern portion of the area.

A diesel " Brayloader " was purchased during the year to facilitate the work of levelling and covering on the refuse tips at Hermitage and Stanford.

A kerbside collection of refuse was made fortnightly throughout the district, with one housing estate near Wantage collected weekly.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

All sewage tanks serving Council Houses are emptied once every month while cesspools are emptied once every two months. In addition, the vehicle is available for private work. During the year it was found possible to maintain the charge at the previous year's figure of £1 : 15 : 0d. per load, with reductions for subsequent loads, etc.

The following figures relate to the period now under review :—

No. of emptyings of Council sewage tanks	100
No. of emptyings of Council cesspools	244
No. of emptyings of Private tanks and Cesspools	398
Amount due to the Council	£888 : 17 : 3d.
No. of gallons of sewage pumped	1,085,600

RODENT CONTROL

Two surveys of the whole district were carried out during the year.

No. of complaints received—142
No. of infestations —306

In addition any infestations found at the A.E.R.E. Harwell and Grove, and also Council owned properties throughout the area were effectively dealt with during the year.

AGRICULTURAL

During the year an additional man was engaged to take on the Agricultural contracts relinquished by the Berks A.E.C. Other farmers in the area were also encouraged to enter into contracts with the Council for the destruction of rats and mice on their premises.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Caravan sites at Harwell, Blewbury and Grove were licenced and in use during the year. In addition, there were 40 licences under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269 permitting the stationing and use of moveable dwellings in force for all or part of the year. Conditions in all cases were satisfactory.

HOUSING

During the year the selection of tenants for new Council Houses again formed an important part of the work of the Public Health Department.

New Council Houses were built and occupied as follows :—

East Hanney	12	Upton	6
West Hanney	8	Grove	36

During the year the number of occupied hutments was reduced from 26 to 19.

Families were re-housed from unfit houses as follows :—

West Hanney	2	Blewbury	1
East Hanney	3	East Challow	1
East Ilsley	1	Grove	4

Houses in the following parishes were demolished during the year :—

East Hendred	1

During the year 54 properties in the district were improved with the assistance of Improvement Grants made by the Council under the Housing Act, 1949.

SUMMARY OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING THE YEAR 1958

Number of different premises visited	2133
Number of inspections made	2847
Number of complaints received	288
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	249
Number of notices served. Informal	29
Statutory	1
Number of prosecutions	Nil
Number of nuisances abated	
As to privies and W.C's., sink wastes etc.	9
As to drains and cesspools	46
As to pigs and other animals	3
As to deficient or impure water	4
As to unclean houses	2
As to polluted ditches and streams	8
As to insanitary accumulations and deposits	4
As to other defects or nuisances	27
Number of premises disinfected	2
Number of water samples for analysis (Public)	20
(Private)	20
Number of wells closed	Nil
Number of wells cleansed, repaired or deepened	Nil
Number of new houses connected to water mains	133
Number of water certificates granted (Rural District only)	Nil
No. of seizures or surrenders of unsound or diseased food	44
Number of conservancy closets replaced by W.C's	39
Number of slaughterhouses on register	4
Visits	384
Piggeries. Number of inspections	2
Number of retail dairies in district	7
Number of inspections	19

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS

	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	4	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	44	20	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	53	24	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecut'ns instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To HM Inspector	Referred By HM Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	2	2	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	3	—	—	—
Total	2	5	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork.—2 (Making of wearing apparel)

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